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SENSITIVE SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR WHA/CEN AND EUR/SCE SSHIRATORI AND PPFEUFFER.

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: AORC PREL ICJ KV CS

SUBJECT: COSTA RICA TO CONSIDER KOSOVO LEGAL BRIEF TO ICJ

REF: A. A.STATE 29385 _B. B.SAN JOSE 186

11. (U) On March 31, we delivered Ref A demarche to Randolf Coto, head of the MFA's Office of International Organizations. Coto told us that the MFA developed a document outlining its support of Kosovar independence when the GOCR recognized Kosovo (Ref B). However, the MFA had not given any thought to filing a legal brief with the ICJ. Coto told us that they would consider doing so before the April 17 deadline.

12. (SBU) COMMENT: Given Costa Rica's support for the ICJ and its decision to accept whatever the ICJ decided in this case, Coto at first seemed reticent to the idea of a brief. After reminding him that the Serbs pushed against changes to the resolution, and that legal briefs were the chosen mechanism for submitting member countries' views, Coto said the MFA would think about it. We felt, however, that given the MFA's small foreign policy staff, Costa Rica may need more encouragement to follow through with writing and filing a brief before the deadline. We recommend that USUN follow up with the Costa Ricans in New York. END COMMENT.